

REMARKS

The indication that claims 3-19 have been allowed, is acknowledged.

By the above amendment, claims 1 and 2 have been canceled, thereby obviating the rejection of such claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), and placing this application in condition for allowance.


As to the rejection of claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sakamoto (US 6,429,839), as noted above, claims 1 and 2 have been canceled, and this rejection is considered obviated in light of the cancellation, such that comments regarding the cited art is considered unnecessary.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 3-19, the only claims present in this application, should now be in condition for allowance, and issuance of an action of a favorable nature is courteously solicited.

Applicants also submit herewith an Information Disclosure Statement, and consideration of the documents is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, applicant's petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.40285X00) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,



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